

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 MCT-01 A-01 AID-05 SY-05 COME-00
ACDA-12 /076 W
-----074584 112106Z /21
O 112033Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5688

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 3653

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS ASEC, ARA, AR
SUBJECT BOMB INCIDENTS

1. THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL RECENT BOMB EXPLOSIONS IN THE
FEDERAL CAPITAL. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT OCCURRED ON MAY 11
AT 2 PM IN THE UNDERGROUND PARKING GARAGE OF THE
GENERAL SAN MARTIN CULTURAL CENTER. THE BOMB HAD BEEN
PLACED INSIDE A GEUGEOT SEDAN THAT HAD BEEN STOLEN
EARLIER THIS WEEK. POLICE BOMB SQUAD PERSONNEL ATTEMPTED
TO REMOVE THE BOMB BUT IT DETONATED, KILLING POLICE INSPECTOR
HECTOR ROQUE RODRIGUEZ AND INJURING CPL. RAUL ANGEL RUSSO.
AN UNKNOWN PERSON HAD CALLED, ALERTING THE CENTER TO THE
FACT THERE WAS A BOMB IN THE BUILDING. NO LEAFLETS OF ANY
SEBVERSIVE ORGANIZATION WERE FOUND IN THE AREA OF THE INCIDENT.

2. THE OVERALL INCIDENCE OF BOMBINGS IS DOWN FROM LAST
YEAR. FOR INSTANCE, DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 24, 1977
THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 158 BOMB INCIDENTS IN THE GREATER
BUENOS AIRES AREA. IN APRIL 1978 ON COUNTRYWIDE BASIS WE
HAVE ONLY APPROXIMATELY TEN SUCH REPORTS.

3. RSO RECENTLY MET WITH COMISARIO MAJOR MARTINI,
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CHIEF OF THE EXPLOSIVES DIVISION OF THE FEDERAL POLICE.
SOURCE STATED THEY ANTICIPATE SOME INCREASE IN BOMB
INCIDENTS BETWEEN NOW AND THE WORLD CUP BUT THAT OVERALL
TERRORIST CAPABILITY IN THIS AREA HAS BEEN GREATLY
REDUCED.

4. THIS DATE, THE POLICE RESPONDED TO A REPORT OF A VEHICLE

THAT HAD BEEN PARKED ACROSS FROM THE US EMBASSY FOR
THE PAST 3-4 DAYS. RESPONDING OFFICERS CONTACTED THE
BOMB SQUAD WHO CHECKED THE VEHICLE, INSURING THAT IT DID NOT
CONTAIN ANY EXPLOSIVE DEVICE. HOWEVER, WE
UNDERSTAND LA RAZON NEWSPAPER IN THIS EVENINGS (5/11)
EDITION CARRIED THE STORY OF A BOMB BEING DISCOVERED
OUTSIDE THE US EMBASSY. THIS IS NOT SO. SAME STORY
HAS ALSO BEEN CARRIED BY OTHER NEWS SERVICES. THE
POLICE PROCEDURE IN THIS MATTER WAS STRICTLY ROUTINE.
CASTRO

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NNN

Message Attributes

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